



# Ares I Overview

**Phil Sumrall**

Advanced Planning Manager

Ares Projects

NASA MSFC

**Masters Forum**

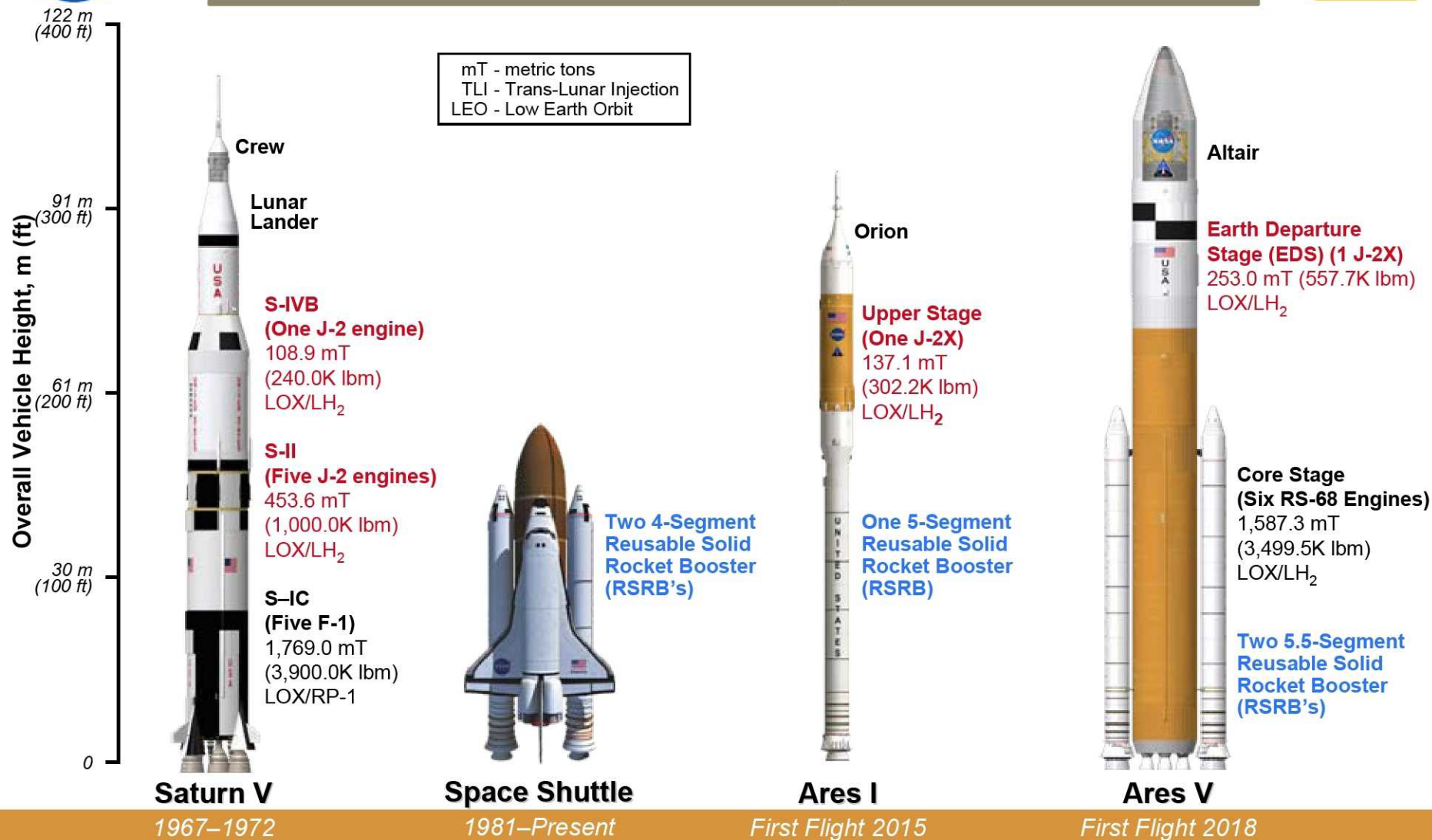
May 14, 2009





# Building on a Foundation of Proven Technologies

## - Launch Vehicle Comparisons -



**Height:** 110.9 m (364.0 ft)  
**Gross Liftoff Mass :**  
2,948.4 mT (6,500K lbm)  
**Payload Capability:**  
44.9 mT (99.0K lbm) to TLI  
118.8 mT (262.0K lbm) to LEO

**Height:** 56.1 m (184.2 ft)  
**Gross Liftoff Mass:**  
2,041.1 mT (4,500.0K lbm)  
**Payload Capability:**  
25.0 mT (55.1K lbm)  
to Low Earth Orbit (LEO)

**Height:** 99.1 m (325.0 ft)  
**Gross Liftoff Mass :**  
927.1 mT (2,044.0K lbm)  
**Payload Capability:**  
25.5 mT (56.2K lbm)  
to LEO

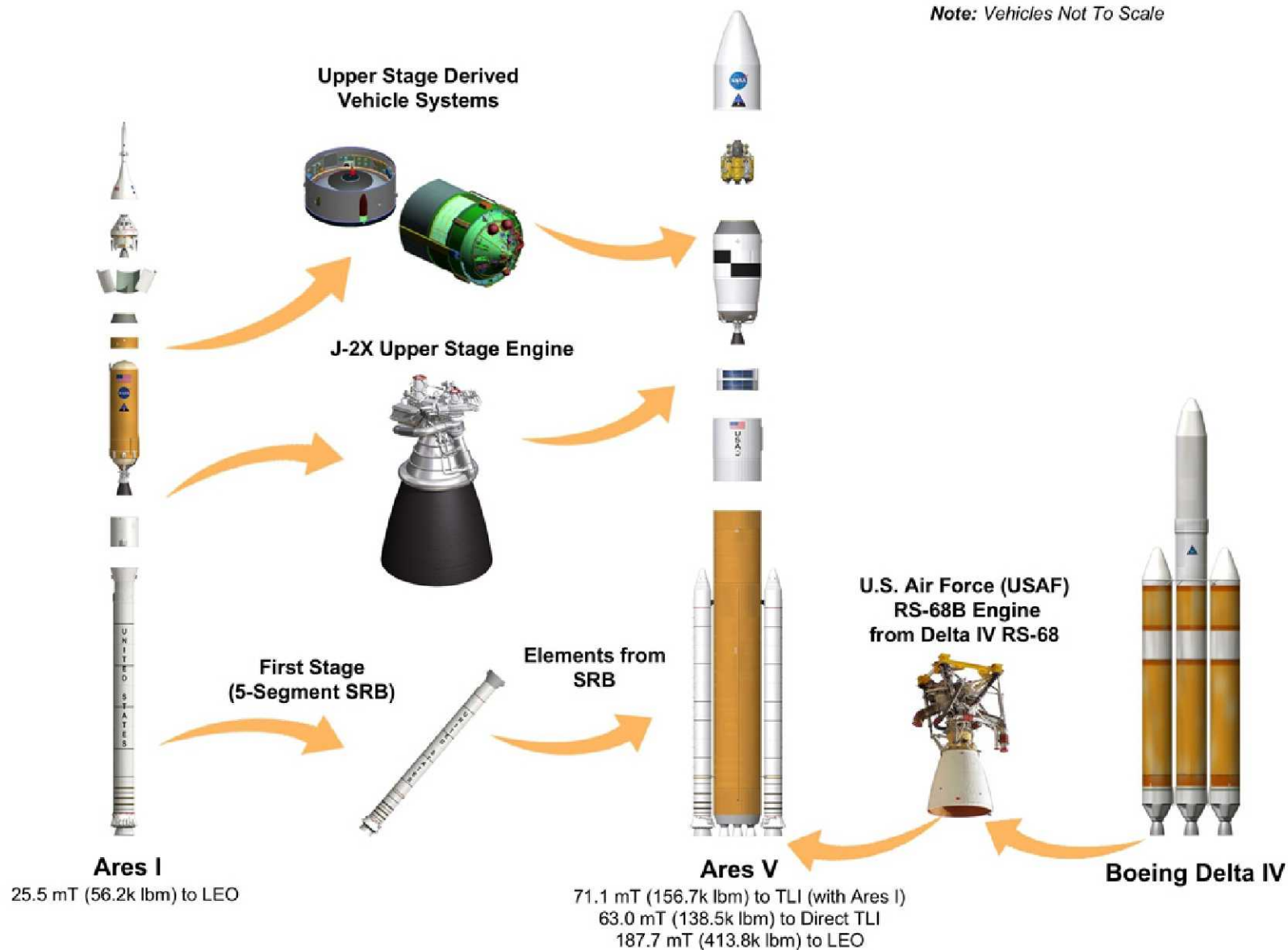
**Height:** 116.2 m (381.1 ft)  
**Gross Liftoff Mass :**  
3,704.5 mT (8,167.1K lbm)  
**Payload Capability:**  
71.1 mT (156.7K lbm) to TLI (with Ares I)  
62.8 mT (138.5K lbm) to TLI  
~187.7 mT (413.8K lbm) to LEO



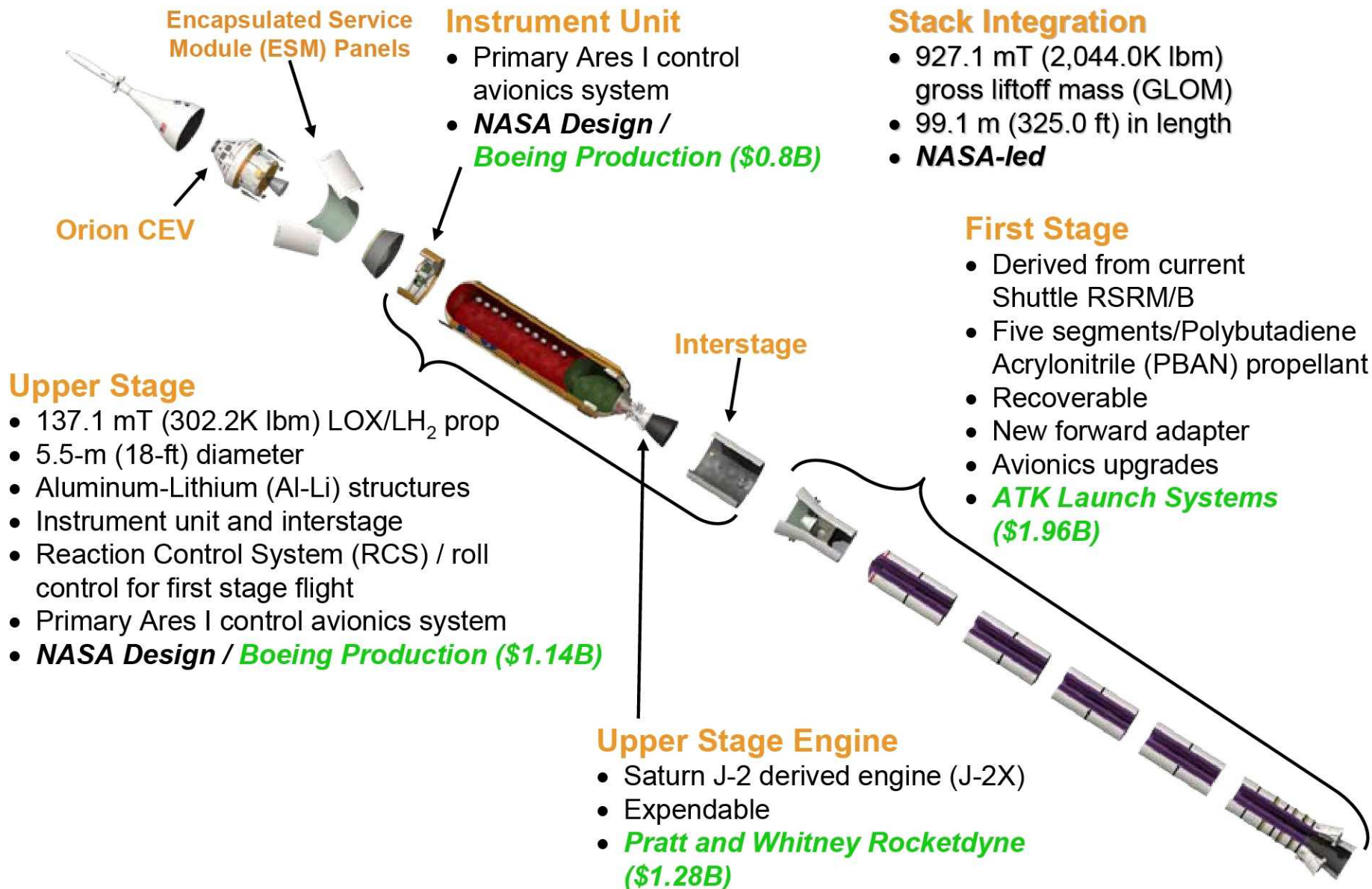
# Employing Common Hardware to Reduce Operations Costs



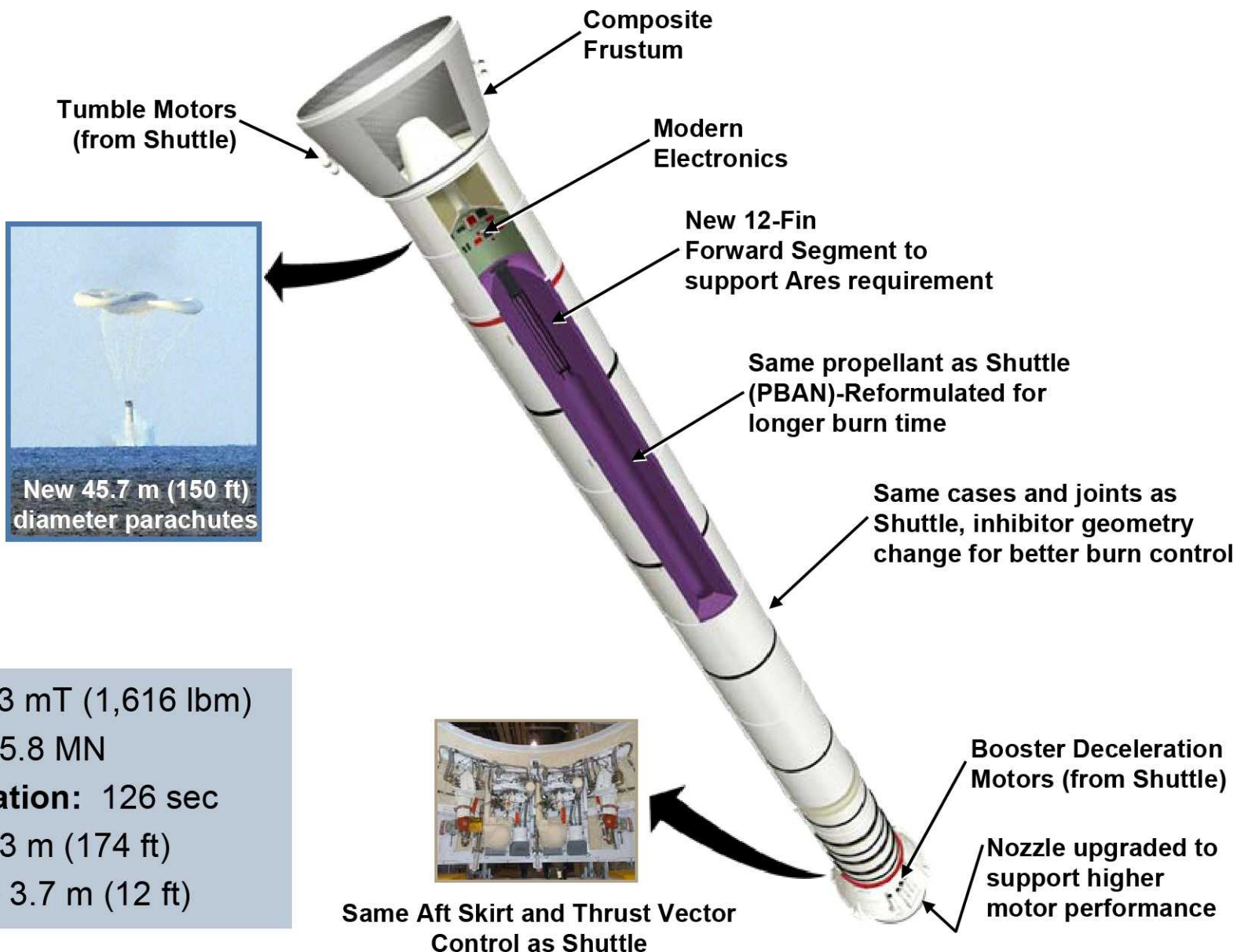
*Note: Vehicles Not To Scale*





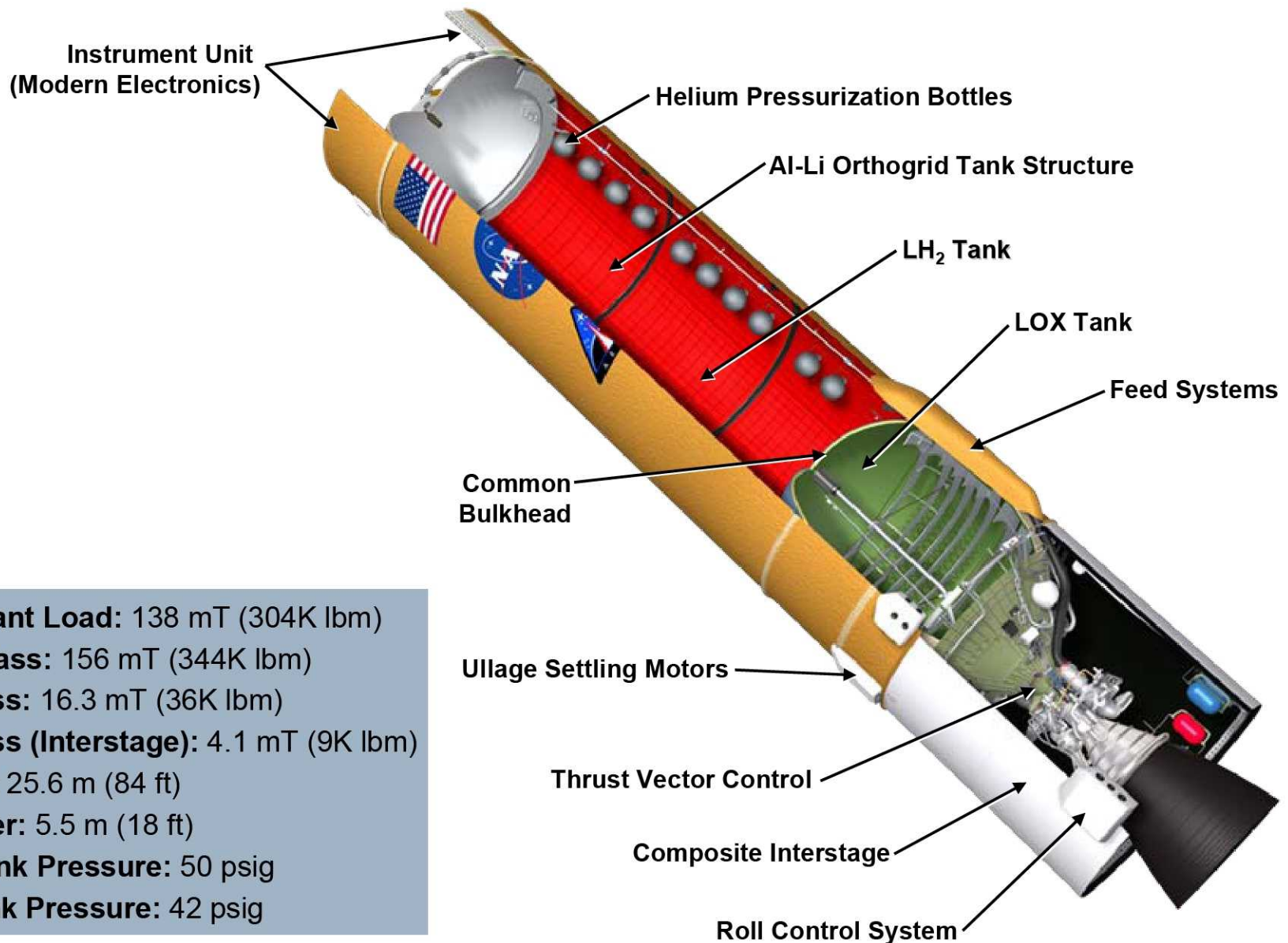


# First Stage



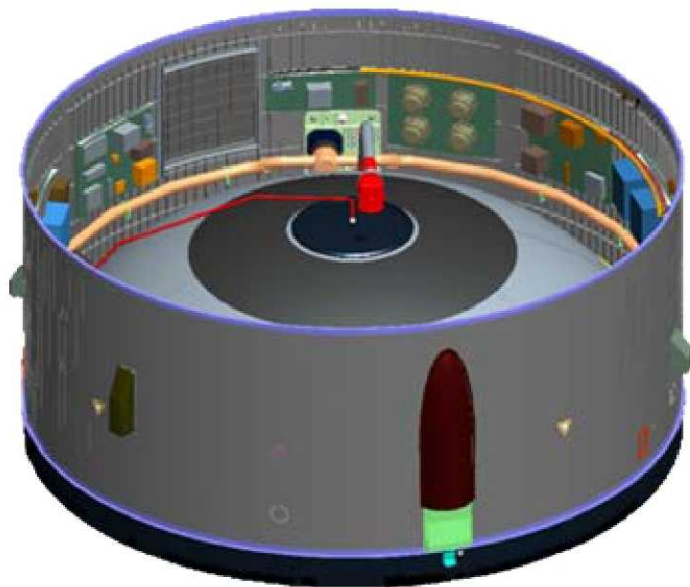
**Mass:** 733 mT (1,616 lbm)  
**Thrust:** 15.8 MN  
**Burn Duration:** 126 sec  
**Height:** 53 m (174 ft)  
**Diameter:** 3.7 m (12 ft)

# Upper Stage



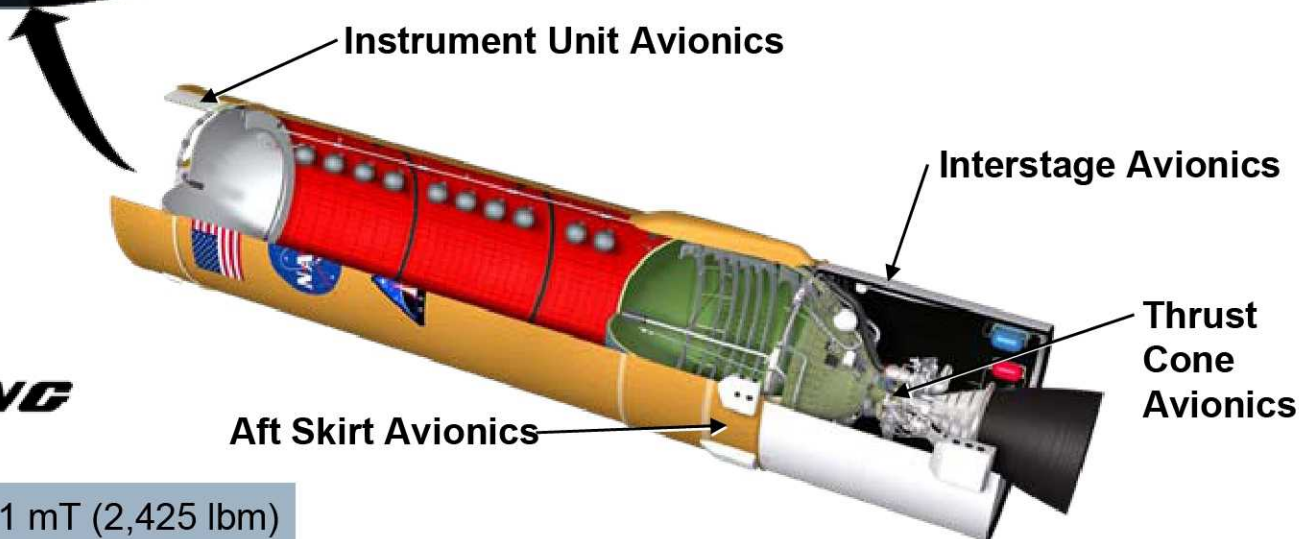
**Propellant Load:** 138 mT (304K lbm)  
**Total Mass:** 156 mT (344K lbm)  
**Dry Mass:** 16.3 mT (36K lbm)  
**Dry Mass (Interstage):** 4.1 mT (9K lbm)  
**Length:** 25.6 m (84 ft)  
**Diameter:** 5.5 m (18 ft)  
**LOX Tank Pressure:** 50 psig  
**LH<sub>2</sub> Tank Pressure:** 42 psig





## The Upper Stage Avionics will provide:

- Guidance, Navigation, and Control (GN&C)
- Command and data handling
- Pre-flight checkout

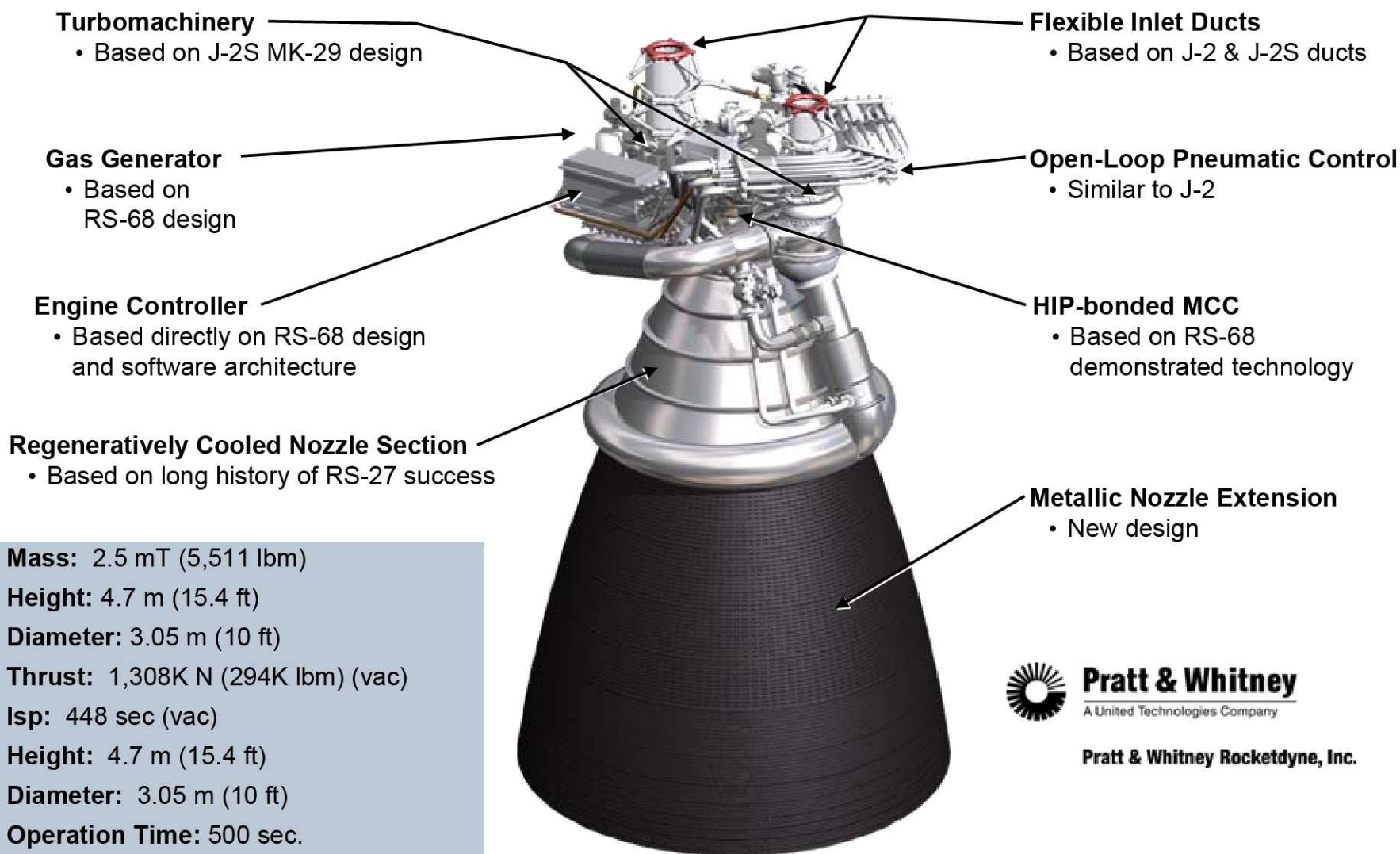


**Avionics Mass:** 1.1 mT (2,425 lbm)  
**Electrical Power:** 5,145 Watts



# J-2X Engine

## *Used on Ares I and Ares V*



**Mass:** 2.5 mT (5,511 lbm)

**Height:** 4.7 m (15.4 ft)

**Diameter:** 3.05 m (10 ft)

**Thrust:** 1,308K N (294K lbm) (vac)

**Isp:** 448 sec (vac)

**Height:** 4.7 m (15.4 ft)

**Diameter:** 3.05 m (10 ft)

**Operation Time:** 500 sec.

**Altitude Start / On-orbit Restart**

**Operational Life:** 8 starts/ 2,600 sec



**Pratt & Whitney**

A United Technologies Company

**Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne, Inc.**



◆ **Demonstrate and collect key data to inform the Ares I design:**

- Vehicle integration, assembly, and KSC launch operations
- Staging/separation
- Roll and overall vehicle control
- Aerodynamics and vehicle loads
- First stage entry dynamics for recovery

◆ **Performance Data:**



	Ares I-X	Ares I
<b>First Stage Max. Thrust (vacuum):</b>	14.1 MN	15.8 MN
<b>Max. Speed:</b>	Mach 4.7	Mach 5.84
<b>Staging Altitude:</b>	39,600 m (130K ft)	57,700 m (188K ft)
<b>Liftoff Weight:</b>	816 mT (1,799K lbm)	927 mT (2,044K lbm)
<b>Length:</b>	99.7 m (327 ft)	99.1 m (325 ft)
<b>Max. Acceleration:</b>	2.46 g	3.79 g



# Ares V Overview

**Phil Sumrall**

*Advanced Planning Manager*

*Ares Projects*

*NASA MSFC*

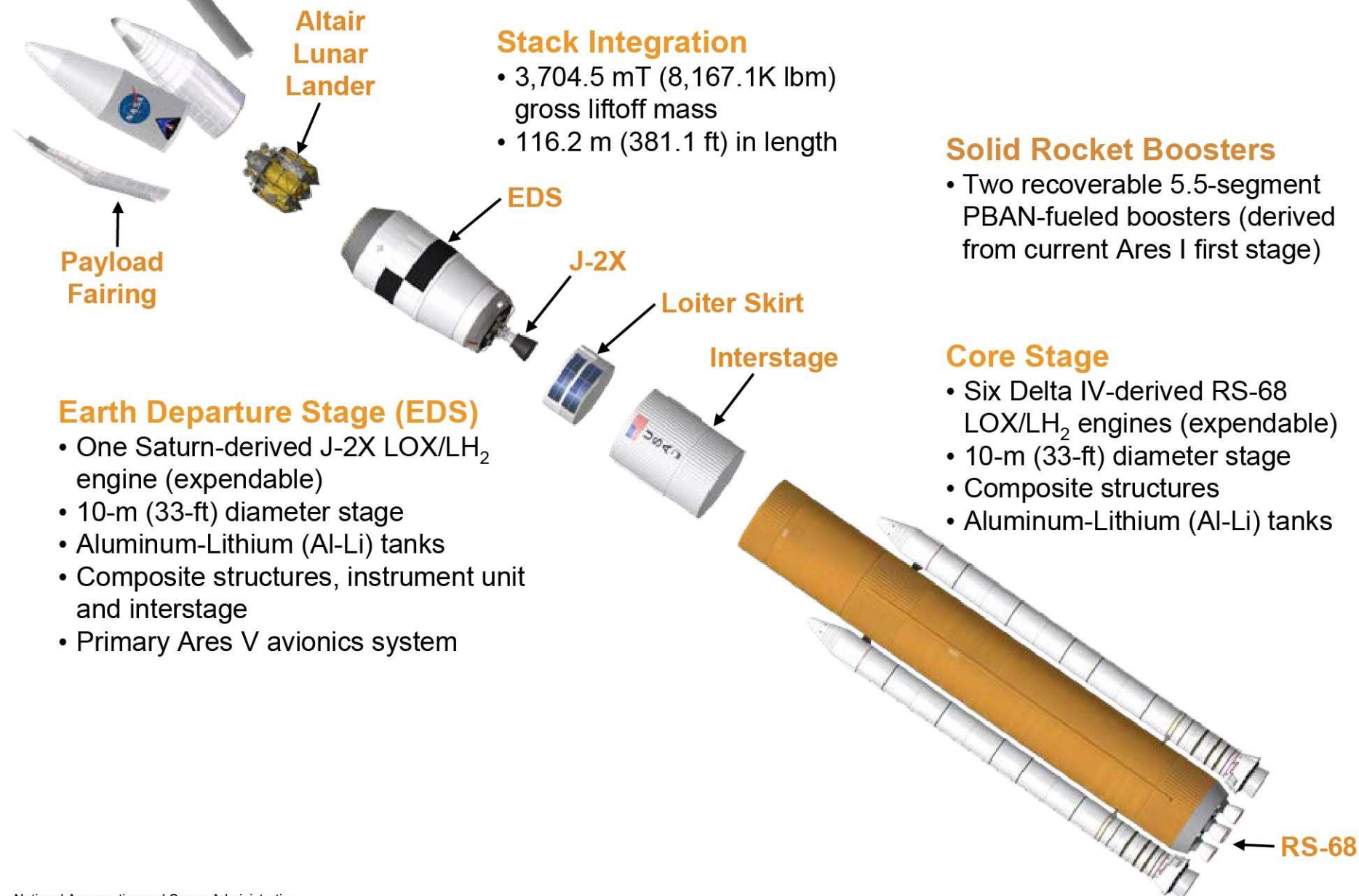
*Masters Forum*

*May 14, 2009*





# Ares V Elements





# Ares V Solid Rocket Booster (SRB)



## Each Booster:

**Mass:** 791.5 t (1,744.9 klb<sub>m</sub>)

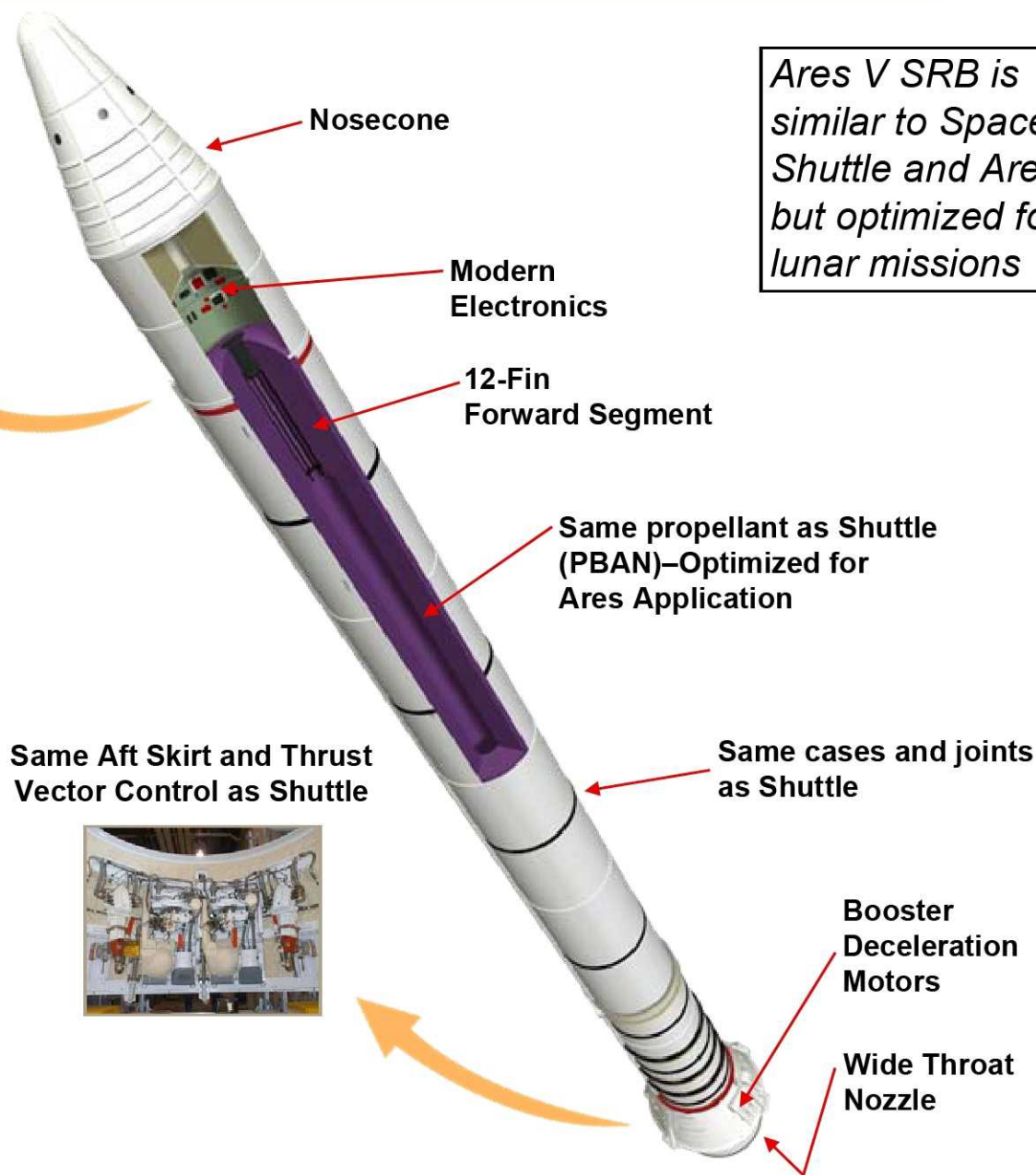
**Thrust:** 16.86 MN (3.79 Mlb<sub>f</sub>)

**Burn Duration:** 126 sec

**Height:** 59 m (193 ft)

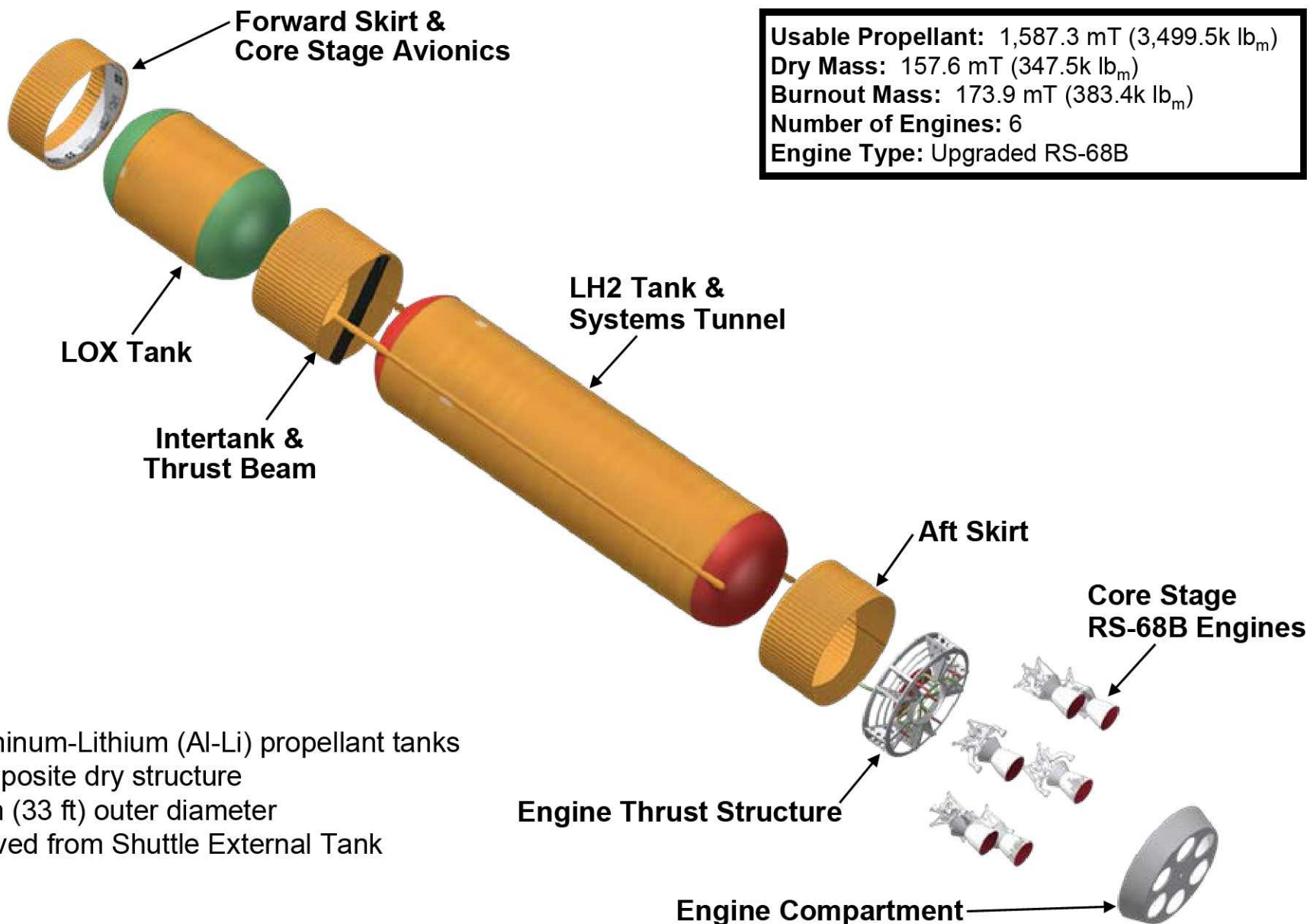
**Diameter:** 3.7 m (12 ft)

Same Aft Skirt and Thrust Vector Control as Shuttle



*Ares V SRB is similar to Space Shuttle and Ares I but optimized for lunar missions*

# Ares V Core Stage

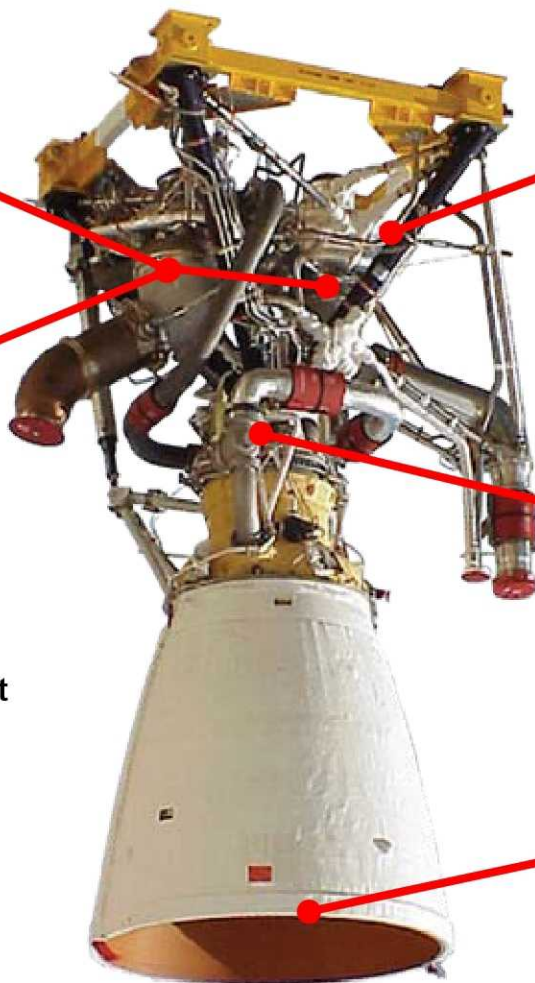


- \* Redesigned turbine nozzles to increase maximum power level by  $\approx 2\%$

Redesigned turbine seals to significantly reduce helium usage for pre-launch

◆ Other RS-68A upgrades or changes that may be included:

- Bearing material change
- New Gas Generator igniter design
- Improved Oxidizer Turbo Pump temp sensor
- Improved hot gas sensor
- 2<sup>nd</sup> stage Fuel Turbo Pump blisk crack mitigation
- Cavitation suppression
- ECU parts upgrade



Helium spin-start duct redesign, along with start sequence modifications, to help minimize pre-ignition free hydrogen

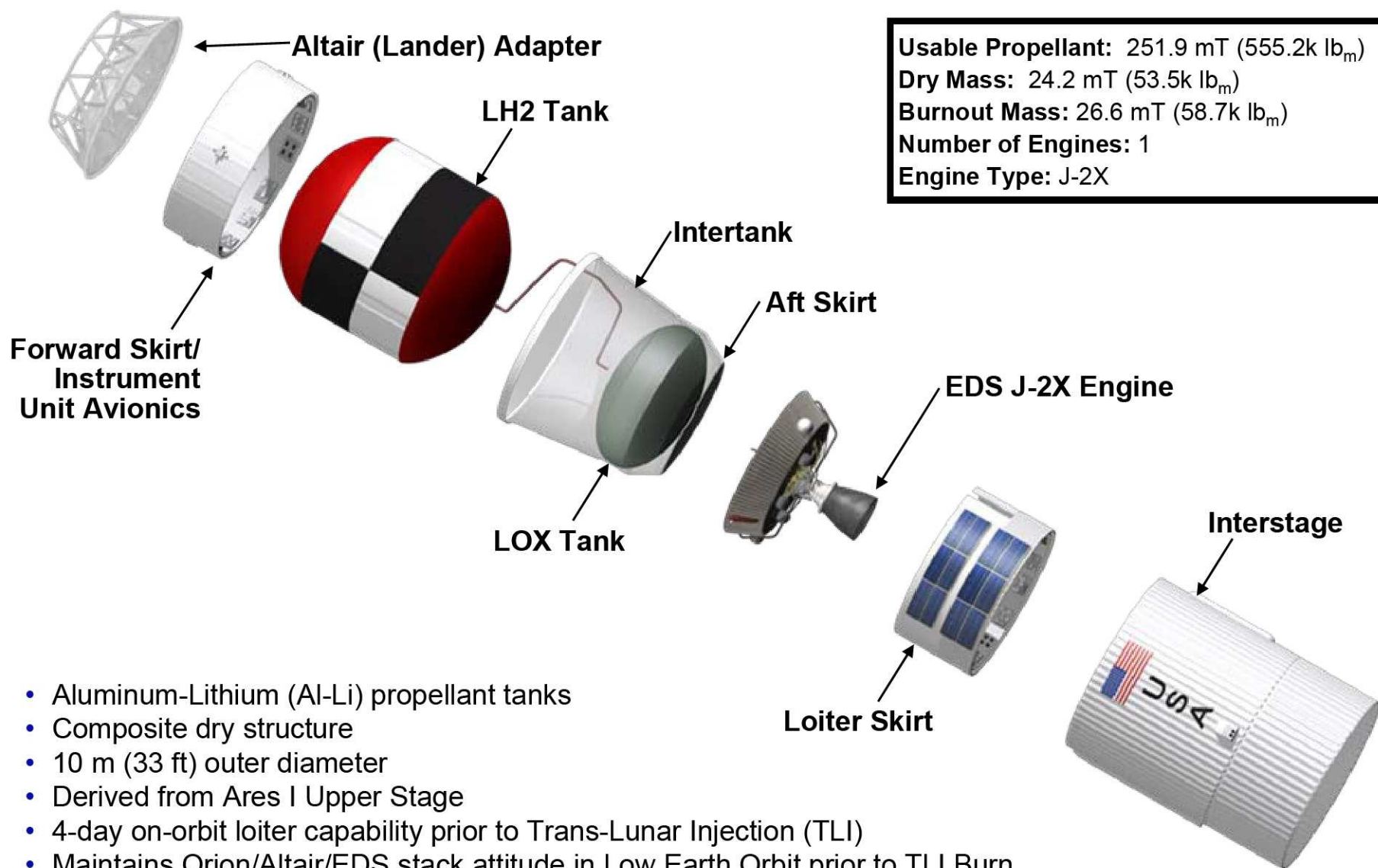
- \* Higher element density main injector improving specific impulse by  $\approx 2\%$  and thrust by  $\approx 4\%$

Increased duration capability ablative nozzle

\* RS-68A Upgrades



# Ares V Earth Departure Stage



**Usable Propellant:** 251.9 mT (555.2k lb<sub>m</sub>)  
**Dry Mass:** 24.2 mT (53.5k lb<sub>m</sub>)  
**Burnout Mass:** 26.6 mT (58.7k lb<sub>m</sub>)  
**Number of Engines:** 1  
**Engine Type:** J-2X

- Aluminum-Lithium (Al-Li) propellant tanks
- Composite dry structure
- 10 m (33 ft) outer diameter
- Derived from Ares I Upper Stage
- 4-day on-orbit loiter capability prior to Trans-Lunar Injection (TLI)
- Maintains Orion/Altair/EDS stack attitude in Low Earth Orbit prior to TLI Burn
- EDS provide 1.5 kW of power to Altair from launch to TLI



# J-2X Engine 'Kitted' for Ares V Mission



## ◆ Upper Stage Engine Element challenge:

Design an engine...

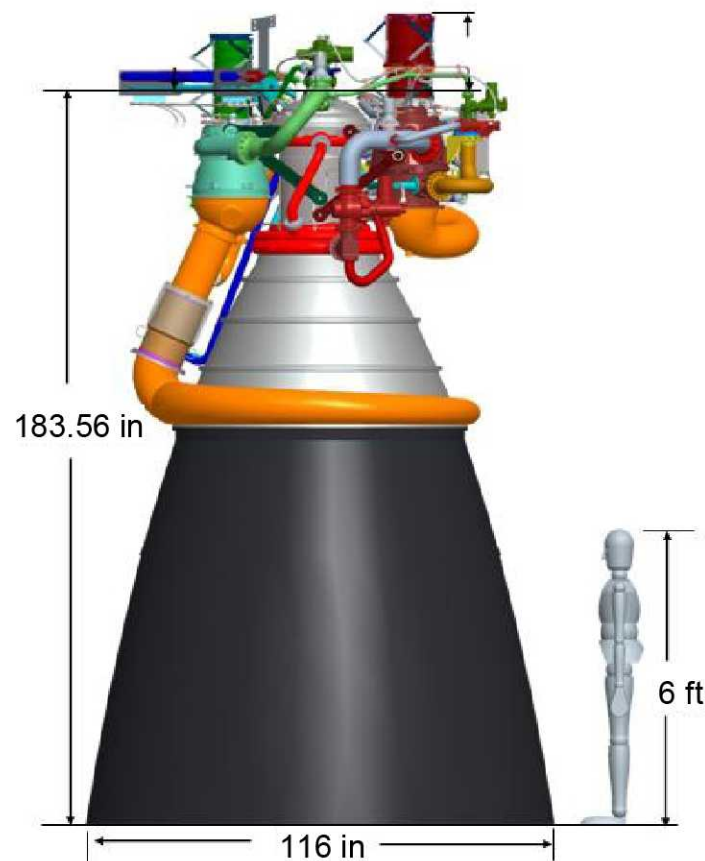
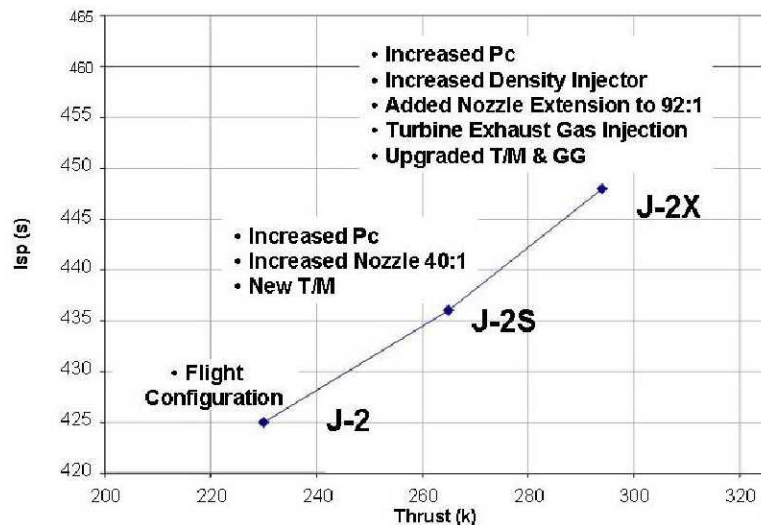
based on an evolution of the Apollo/Saturn era J-2 (GG cycle, 230,000 lbf, 424 seconds  $I_{sp}$ )...

increased to 294,000 lbf (1.3M Newtons) thrust...

increased to 448 seconds of specific impulse (highest ever  $I_{sp}$  for an engine of this class) ...

nearly two years faster than an engine of this class has been developed...

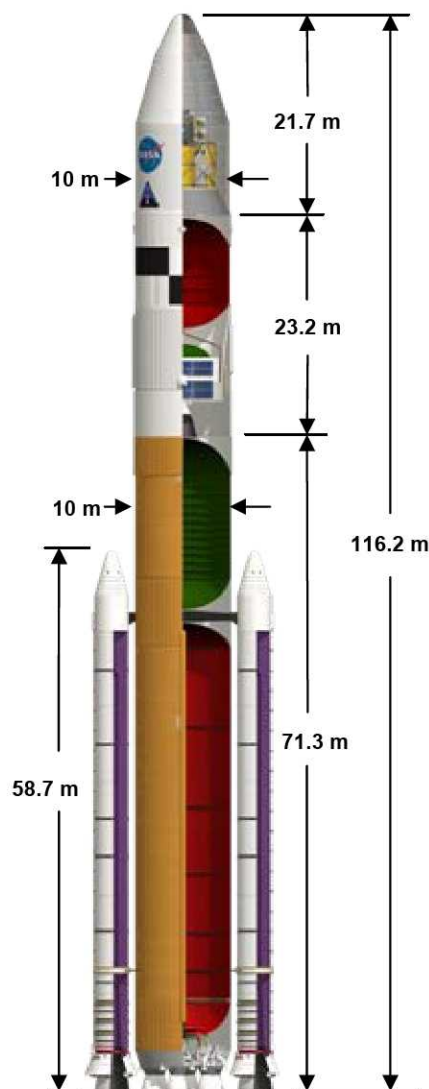
and make it work for two different vehicles with two different missions, keeping as much commonality as possible.





# LCCR/MCR-Approved Point of Departure

- Vehicle 51.0.48 -



NOTE: These are MEAN numbers

## ◆ Vehicle 51.0.48 approved in 2008

- 6 Engine Core, 5.5 Segment PBAN steel case booster
- Provides architecture closure with margin

## ◆ Approved maintaining Vehicle 51.0.47 with composite HTPB booster as Ares V option

- Final decision on Ares V booster at Constellation Lunar SRR (2010)
- Additional performance capability if needed for margin or requirements
- Allows for competitive acquisition environment for booster

## ◆ Near Term Plan to Maintain Booster Options

- Fund key technology areas: composite cases, HTPB propellant characterization
- Competitive Phase 1 industry studies



## ◆ Ares I

- Ares I, First Stage, & Upper Stage PDRs complete in '08
- Numerous First Stage development and static motor casting & firing tests, wind tunnel, nozzle, materials, parachute drop tests complete
- All Ares I-X hardware at KSC for '09 launch
- Completed J-2X PDR in '07, CDR in '08
- SSC A-1 test stand converted, A-3 stand construction under way to support J-2X
- Numerous heritage/component/subscale/powerpack tests and CFD completed in support of J-2X turbomachinery, combustion devices, etc.
- J-2X casting/machining trials under way/long-lead parts procured



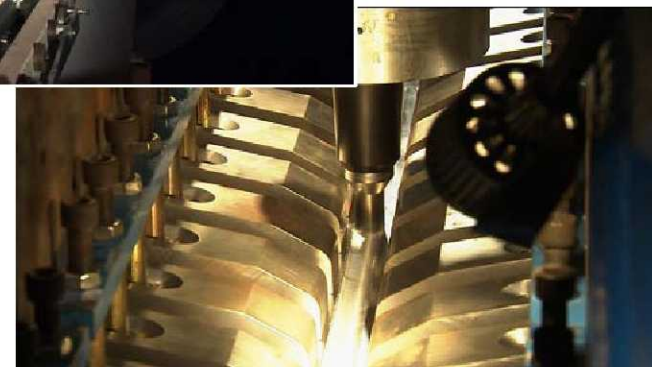
Workhorse Gas Generator Test



Nozzle Burnthrough Test



Inert Forward Segment X-Ray



Tank Barrel Structural Test

## ◆ Ares V

- Subscale main injector tests, analysis conducted on RS-68B
- LCCR establishes POD concept '08
- RFP for concept definition issued '09



# Big Picture Challenges of the Ares Projects





## ◆ Integrating technical products and people

- Within Ares
- With other Constellation Projects
- With other stakeholders

## ◆ Ensuring ownership and accountability

## ◆ Managing workload

## ◆ Managing communication

- Controlling distribution of sensitive information
- Managing internal and external communications in the Internet age

## ◆ Balancing need to reduce costs with the need to maintain a motivated, knowledgeable workforce



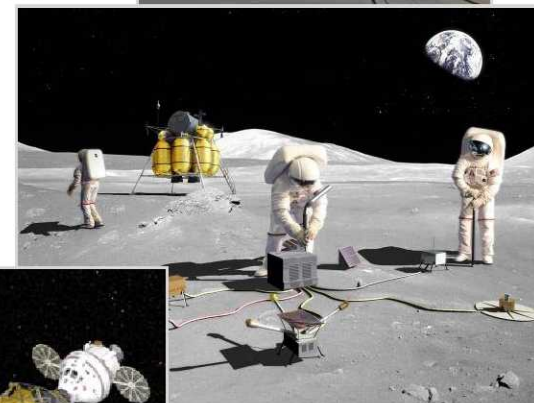


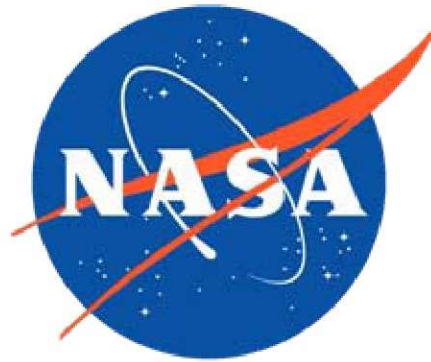


# Fully Understanding Programmatic and Technical Challenges



- ◆ Usable Analogs – Apollo, Shuttle, ISS?
- ◆ Dual-Launch Architecture – ground ops, on-orbit
- ◆ A much larger rocket – Ares V
- ◆ Reduced touch labor, simplified operations
- ◆ International and commercial participation
- ◆ Sustained operations with a pay-as-you-go budget
- ◆ Ending Shuttle ops, completing ISS, and transition to lunar exploration
- ◆ Infrastructure sustainment – facilities, workforce, industrial base
- ◆ Accommodating science/exploration





**[www.nasa.gov/ares](http://www.nasa.gov/ares)**